

RECOGNIZING THE LEADERSHIP
OF MIKE GRAYUM TO THE
NORTHWEST INDIAN FISHERIES
COMMISSION AND THE PUGET
SOUND REGION

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mike Grayum, who will retire this year after 11 years as the Executive Director of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission (NWIFC) in Washington State. Mike is one of NWIFC's original employees and has served in various positions with the Commission since 1976.

NWIFC is stronger, more unified, and better positioned to serve its member Tribes because of Mike's service and leadership. Born out of the Boldt Decision over 40 years ago, NWIFC has been a critical voice in natural resource policy at the local, state, and federal levels. Mike has played an integral role in developing that voice and crafting policies to support NWIFC's mission and help navigate often-challenging issues.

In addition to assisting member Tribes in their resource management practices, Mike partnered with past NWIFC Chair Billy Frank Jr. and Current Chair Lorraine Loomis in educating elected officials, government agency staff, and the public at-large on Tribal Treaty Rights, including producing the vital document Treaty Rights at Risk. Mike has played an important role in protecting these sacred cultural practices and joined countless Tribal Leaders from around the region in highlighting their importance to past, present, and future generations.

Mr. Speaker, for the past four decades, Mike Grayum has fiercely advocated for policies to protect our environment, restore natural habitat for salmon and other species, and recover Puget Sound. He has undoubtedly served as a mentor to younger staff at NWIFC and member Tribes and has helped grow the next generation of stewards of our environment and protectors of Tribal Treaty Rights. Thankfully, NWIFC is blessed to have Justin Parker continue that tradition and lead these efforts in the future as the next Executive Director.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join Tribal Leaders, environmental advocates, local elected officials, and salmon lovers from throughout the Pacific Northwest in expressing my gratitude today in the United States Congress for Mike Grayum's 40 years of leadership and dedication. As the proud Representative of Washington's 6th Congressional District in the House of Representatives, I offer my best wishes for a happy retirement.

2016 SERVICE ACADEMY APPOINTMENTS FROM THE 27TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS

HON. BLAKE FARENTHOLD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the 2016 Service Academy

appointees from the 27th Congressional District of Texas.

The following outstanding young men and women have accepted academy appointments:

Joshua Aaron Agosto, Burkburnett High School, United States Merchant Marine Academy; Lucas Antonio Beltran, Richard King High School, United States Naval Academy; Roberto Esai Cervantes, Calallen High School, New Mexico Military Institute, United States Merchant Marine Academy; Julian Eduardo Flores, St. Stephens's Episcopal School, United States Air Force Academy; Amanda Nicole Madrid, Richard King High School, United States Air Force Academy; Matthew Joseph Moffitt, W.B. Ray High School, United States Military Academy; Austin M Nguyen, W.B. Ray High School, United States Military Academy; Gavin Senterfitt, Richard King High School, New Mexico Military Institute; Alana Stern, Gonzales High School, United States Naval Academy Preparatory School, Greystone Preparatory School at Schreiner University, United States Naval Academy; Tanner Strawbridge, W.B. Ray High School, United States Naval Academy; Clayton Daley Thompson, Flour Bluff High School, United States Naval Academy Preparatory School.

I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating these remarkable students achievement. I'm confident they will serve our country well and I pray success will follow them in all their future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF PRIDE MONTH

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, throughout June, LGBT community members and allies across our country will march down Main Street to celebrate the tremendous progress we have made towards equality. I rise today to honor the many individuals in my district, as well as across the country, who have fought for generations for the right to be treated fairly and with decency. You have led the charge against bigotry, towards equality. We celebrate Pride Month in honor of you.

In the 24 years that I've served in Congress, the understanding and acceptance of the LGBT community has greatly improved. Families across the country have opened their hearts to welcome increasingly diverse neighbors and loved ones. This change can also be felt in the halls of Congress. Just this past month, an amendment to prevent discrimination against Federal employees and contractors on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity passed the House with bipartisan support, after having been defeated just the week before. Discrimination against the LGBT community is increasingly being recognized for what it is—bigotry—and federal policy is starting the long trek to catch up.

I do not deny that there is still much work to be done. North Carolina's recent move to target transgender children proves that bigotry and hate still must be fought and defeated. We must continue to work towards a Federal prohibition of discrimination based on actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity. I am a proud cosponsor of legislation that

would do just that, the Equality Act, and remain committed to ensuring Congress enacts laws to fully protect the rights of all Americans, regardless of gender, ethnicity or race.

I am proud to represent communities all along the Central Coast who celebrate our diversity and continue to fight towards the equality that the LGBT community so rightly deserves. Just this past Sunday, Santa Cruz celebrated their Pride Parade, just as they've done for forty-one years. Marchers, musicians, and drummers marched, danced, and waved flags of every color down Pacific Avenue. We are inspired by the beat of their drum to march on towards equality.

BRETAGNE: A K-9 HERO

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, heroes and servants of our country come in all shapes and sizes. Sept. 11, 2001 is one of those days that will live in infamy. The shameful attack of that morning, as President Bush noted in his address, was meant to frighten our nation. But we did not descend into chaos and retreat. September 12 was a day that saw our country united and resolved. A helping hand was extended by individuals and organizations from all across this nation.

We all came together, and in doing so we won the first battle of the war on terror. The men responsible for that attack wanted to shake the foundations of America, but in the wake of the disaster we demonstrated the power of our country, e pluribus unum, in full glory.

An example of that glory manifested can be found in Texas Task Force One, which came over 1600 miles to lend a hand in the search for survivors. One invaluable member of that force was Bretagne (pronounced Britney), a rescue dog of the Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Department in Cypress, Texas. She helped members of the rescue team search the rubble of the World Trade Center.

It is important that we show tribute to all, even the four-legged soldiers. Sixteen year old Bretagne, a golden retriever from Cypress, Texas, was the last living search and rescue dog who worked at Ground Zero after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. She recently passed away at age 16. She was a beloved member of the team, and we are grateful for her service to this country.

She first became a rescue dog in 2000, at the Cy-Fair Fire Department. Bretagne not only aided the heroes of 9/11, but also located and rescued hundreds of citizens after natural disasters such as Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans. When in Houston, Bretagne visited elementary schools, as a symbol to the children that courage doesn't just have one face.

To the despair of the Cypress community that so loved and adored her, brave little Bretagne's health declined. Her years of loyal service and devotion to the American people began to take a toll, and the veterinarians were given no choice but to put her down.

She was given the hero's salute by the fire department just the other day, as she made her last walk into the office. I too salute you, Bretagne, and all other surviving heroes of 9/11. Our nation deeply thanks all of you.